

Newark, N. J.

April 19, 1934.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Urban League was held the evening of the above date at Bethany Baptist Church, 117 West Market Street. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hayes, Pastor of the Church, followed by the singing of the Negro National Anthem.

Mrs. Walter Darden, Chairman of the Annual Meeting Committee presented Mr. Ormond, President of the League who said, "Quiet acceptance of a lot imposed and worked out by others will do little to bring about improvement. Free expression of aims and ideals is in order. Before closing his remarks, Mr. Ormond made a plea that whole-hearted support be given the new Executive, Mr. Lett."

After music by a CWA quintette reports were made. The first of that of the retiring Executive, Mr. Thos. L. Puryear. Mr. Puryear said in part "Inter-racial understanding is the medium that gives birth to proper attitudes, and is the agent that initiates action. Conduct is rationalized by understanding, and winning is clarified." He further stated that local social work agencies had lacked understanding of the Negro and his ability to perform a competent social work job. During an interview with the personnel director of the S. E. R. A., Mr. Puryear had suggested interviews with a number of trained Negro social workers. This had been done--understanding was established and Negro workers are being engaged.

The Phyllis Wheatly Home under the management of Miss Alene McKine had furnished 788 nights free lodging for 28 girls; 3,970 nights lodging for girls who were able to pay. The home had received cooperation from the Children's Aid Society, Church Mission of Help, Essex County Probation Department and Traveler's Aid Society.

The report of Dr. Bell, the retiring Treasurer was as follows:

For the year ending Dec. 31, 1933

Income from all sources	\$10,012.18
Expenses	10,275.05
Deficit	262.93

The report of the Nominating Committee, Mrs. G. E. Bell, chairman was as follows: Board members for a three year period expiring Jan. 1, 1937.

Dr. W. G. Alexander
Mrs. W. G. Alexander
Mr. J. H. Beckett
Mrs. W. T. Darden

Rev. L. B. Ellerson
Mr. Van Buren Powell
Miss May L. Shepard
Mr. Howard Gilmour

To fill an unexpired term - for a two year period - Mr. Howard Lett.
To fill an unexpired term - a one year period, Mr. G. Brooks.

The slate of officers: Mr. Archie H. Ormond Pres.
Rev. L. Hamilton Garner, 1st Vice-Pres.
Mrs. G. E. Bell, 2nd Vice-Pres.
Mrs. Clarence S. Janifer, Sec'y.
Dr. James B. Parks, Treas.

The report of the Nominating Committee was duly received and accepted.

After music by Bethany Church Choir, the incoming Executive Secretary was presented. Mr. Lett began his talk by summing up the effects of the present depression and stating that the Negro has always suffered these same ills. The resultant social maladjustments were formerly considered by many to be largely racial in character but the depression had proven the fallacy of these beliefs.

Since, whatever affects the Negro through him affects the entire nation, any Negro social agency should be so supported by the community that it could do an efficient piece of work.

Mr. Lett emphasized the need of able leadership. He said, "The existence of an organized, unselfish Negro leadership means primarily, the actual mobilization of group economic and political strength, without which the hope of progress in materialistic America is but an empty dream."

He said further "Whatever specific problems the Urban League organization may be called upon to face, motivating its activities is the general principle that the social problems of the Negro population are the well known evidences of human maladjustment - we are not representing a distinctly alien group whose problems shall be considered as separate and peculiar from those of other humans, responding only to certain special rules based upon out worn dogmas."

Mr. Lett finished by saying: "Whatever means we may employ to accept the many challenges in our community life, we are

recognizing the fact that, as an agency, we can do but little without the intelligent counsel and support of honest, courageous members of the dominant race, and the aggressive, unselfish co-operation of the leadership and the masses of the group we would serve."

The guest speaker was the Hon. Joseph Siegler, Judge of the Criminal Court, who was presented by Mrs. Bell. Judge Siegler spoke of juvenile delinquency and its prevention. He advocated slum clearance and greater recreation facilities for Negro youth.

At this time a presentation was made to the retiring Executive Secretary, Mr. Puryear.

The Rev. Mr. Ellerson pronounced the benediction.

Mr. A. H. Ormond, President.

U. M. Janifer, Secretary.